



State of California
The Resources Agency
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Rainbow Ridge Fuelbreak (Phase I and Phase II)		
PROJECT LOCATION	Sections 19 and 30, T40N, R4W, MDM	COUNTY	Siskiyou
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Jon Miller	PHONE	(530) 842-3516
ADDRESS	1809 Fairlane Road		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This proposed project will construct a shaded fuel break on Sierra Pacific Industries and Siskiyou County Flood Control and Irrigation District property along Rainbow Ridge and Lake Siskiyou. Rainbow Ridge is the first major ridge or topographical feature to the west of the Mt. Shasta community. The shaded fuel break to be created under this project will be approximately 1.8 miles in length and 300 feet wide. Within the fuel break area, 64 acres will be thinned, pruned, and brush and ground fuels hand piled for burning. No overstory trees shall be removed. All work to be performed shall be utilize CAL FIRE inmate crews with chainsaws and hand tools. Ground disturbing equipment (i.e. dozer, backhoe, or excavator) will not be used for this project.

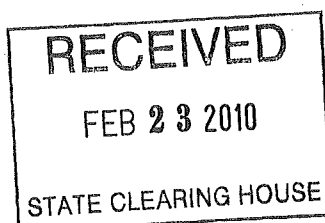
EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 Minor Alterations to Land, §15304
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

CEQA guidelines §15304 exempts minor alteration of vegetation including fuel management activities to reduce volume of flammable vegetation, provided the activities do not result in the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant/animal species, or cause other significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters. The entire project area is either currently or recently (5/18/09) within an area approved for timber harvest under THP 2-04-161-SIS-6) or 2-05NTMP-002-SIS(6). These documents have identified all sensitive resources within the project area and the potential impacts associated with timber harvesting. In addition, project notification letters were sent Department of Fish and Game, Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District, Central Valley RWQCB, Siskiyou County Planning Department, and all Native American individuals or groups as listed on the CAL FIRE Archaeology website. The project has been discussed with a CAL FIRE archaeologist. Current archaeological record checks are on file and additional archaeological surveys will be conducted and the project adjusted to avoid sites during the course of flagging project boundaries by CAL FIRE staff with archaeological training. The DFG Natural Diversity Data Base printout is current and also on file. There will not be a significant negative environmental impact from this project.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director 2/18/10
Date